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**From:** Lara, Rhina [Lara.Rhina@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 2/23/2021 7:09:45 PM  
**To:** Leifer, Kerry [Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov]; Aubee, Catherine [Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov]; Fitz, Nancy [Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Echeverria, Marietta [Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM

Ah good to know! Thanks, Kerry.

Best,

**Rhina M. Lara** (*she/her/hers*)

Communications Branch

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Phone: (202) 815- 5722

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**From:** Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 2:09 PM  
**To:** Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>; Aubee, Catherine <Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov>; Fitz, Nancy <Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Echeverria, Marietta <Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM

The nonfood database is part of OPPIN which is not available to the public.

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Kerry Leifer, Chief  
Chemistry, Inerts and Toxicology Assessment Branch  
Registration Division (7505P)  
Office of Pesticide Programs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
tel: (703) 308-8811  
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e-mail: [leifer.kerry@epa.gov](mailto:leifer.kerry@epa.gov)

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**From:** Lara, Rhina  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 2:07 PM  
**To:** Aubee, Catherine <[Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov)>; Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>; Fitz, Nancy <[Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Echeverria, Marietta <[Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov](mailto:Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM

Hi Kerry and Catherine,

Slightly modified answers below. Let me know if these work. Do we have a link to the database with nonfood use approvals?

6. ***Regarding EPA's Inert Finder, are companies meant to use that as a baseline for what inert ingredients are permitted?***

The InertFinder is a tool for helping stakeholders determine which inert ingredients are approved (or not approved) for use in pesticide products. However, the [Code of Federal Regulations](#) remains the official source for regulatory information related to the use of inert ingredients in pesticide products used on food. In the case of nonfood use inert ingredients, the Office of Pesticide Programs maintains a database of nonfood use limitations and approvals.

7. ***Are there any PFAS listed in the finder? If so, how has EPA been able to rule them out as a potential source of the contamination?***

## Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Best,  
**Rhina M. Lara** (*she/her/hers*)  
Communications Branch  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: (202) 815- 5722

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**From:** Aubee, Catherine <[Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 1:46 PM  
**To:** Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>; Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>; Fitz, Nancy <[Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Echeverria, Marietta <[Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov](mailto:Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM

Thanks, Kerry! For the second question, I would focus on the Inert Finder for the response. We have previously said that there are no registered pesticide ingredients (active or inert) that are similar to PFAS such as PFOS, etc. Inert Finder may contain legacy chemicals not currently approved for use in pesticide products. We recently received an inquiry with a list of chemicals of interest to a stakeholder and are in the process of evaluating those entries.

Best,  
Catherine

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**From:** Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 1:39 PM  
**To:** Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>; Fitz, Nancy <[Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Echeverria, Marietta <[Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov](mailto:Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov)>; Aubee, Catherine <[Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM

Thank you, Kerry! I appreciate your input.

Best,  
**Rhina M. Lara** (*she/her/hers*)  
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Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
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**From:** Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 1:33 PM

**To:** Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>; Fitz, Nancy <[Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Echeverria, Marietta <[Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov](mailto:Echeverria.Marietta@epa.gov)>; Aubee, Catherine <[Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov](mailto:Aubee.Catherine@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM

Hi Rhina,

Here is some language for answering the two questions:

***Q. Regarding EPA's Inert Finder, are companies meant to use that as a baseline for what inert ingredients are permitted?***

## **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

***Are there any PFAS listed in the finder? If so, how has EPA been able to rule them out as a potential source of the contamination?***

EPA is in the process of evaluating whether there is actual use in registered pesticide formulations of any PFAS compound. Additionally, that evaluation will include a determination as to whether any PFAS inert ingredient (if actually used in pesticides) is the source of any product container contamination.

Kerry

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Kerry Leifer, Chief  
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**From:** Lara, Rhina

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 12:26 PM

**To:** Fitz, Nancy <[Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM

Thanks, Nancy! I'll await Kerry's response.

Best,  
**Rhina M. Lara** (*she/her/hers*)  
Communications Branch  
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention  
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**From:** Fitz, Nancy <[Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 10:56 AM  
**To:** Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM

Hi Rhina,

I defer to Kerry on both of these, since they specifically address inerts. He is in the RD management meeting now but hopefully will be able to address this soon.

Nancy

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**From:** Lara, Rhina <[Lara.Rhina@epa.gov](mailto:Lara.Rhina@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2021 10:16 AM  
**To:** Fitz, Nancy <[Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Fitz.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Leifer, Kerry <[Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov](mailto:Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Press Inquiry Help: E&E News, PFAS in Pesticide Packaging, DDL 12:30 PM  
**Importance:** High

Hi Nancy and Kerry,

We got a press inquiry from E&E News regarding the PFAS in pesticide packaging issue. Sorry for the quick turnaround, but we have to get an answer to the reporters by COB Wednesday. Could you please help with the following questions by **12:30 PM today?**

6. ***Regarding EPA's Inert Finder, are companies meant to use that as a baseline for what inert ingredients are permitted?***
7. ***Are there any PFAS listed in the finder? If so, how has EPA been able to rule them out as a potential source of the contamination?***

Best,  
**Rhina M. Lara** (*she/her/hers*)  
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# NATIONAL PESTICIDE SAFETY EDUCATION MONTH

National Pesticide Safety Education Month  
Pesticide Safety Education Programs